

CHAS-320
Dyson-Mahoney Tenant House
Waldorf Vicinity
Private

c. 1900-1910

This small, one and a half story frame is similar in design to the "shotgun houses" of the Deep South. It was built as a tenant house for Negro and white farm laborers.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MAHI # 0908205-04

CH 320

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Dyson-Mahoney Tenant House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

West side of Middletown Road, 75 yards south of junction of Middletown Road and Route 228.

CITY, TOWN

Waldorf

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Charles

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT

☐ BUILDING(S)

☒ STRUCTURE

☐ SITE

☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

☐ UNOCCUPIED

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE

☐ COMMERCIAL

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ GOVERNMENT

☐ INDUSTRIAL

☐ MILITARY

☐ MUSEUM

☐ PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Roderick Dyson

Telephone #: 645-7238

STREET & NUMBER

Middletown Road

CITY, TOWN

Waldorf

☒ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20601

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Charles County Courthouse

Liber #: 149

Folio #: 142

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

La Plata

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CH-320

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This small, one and a half-story frame house is designed in a style known as a "shotgun house." It is a design that is rarely used for farm houses in southern Maryland; though in the states further South, it is often the predominate plan for the rural houses of blacks and is often found as well in cities and mill towns. Like the other "shotgun houses," this one consists of multiple rooms (in this case, three) aligned back to back with the gable end oriented toward the road and serving as the principal facade. In this house, the facade consists of only one bay, which is typical of the "shotgun design." The front door is sheltered by a small shed porch, above which is let a double-hung sash window in the upper half story. The back length of the original two-room block was designed similarly, though it probably had a larger porch to shelter household and farm equipment.

The structure is balloon frame and is sheathed with weatherboards that are unpainted. The corners are covered with unpainted trim boards, the only bright colors to the facade being given by the white trim around the upper window and the white panel door with four lights in the upper half. There are no windows along either side of the width. To the back of the house, a small one-room addition with shed porch has been attached to the original two-room block.

The interior consists of two rooms downstairs, plus the kitchen addition, and two rooms upstairs. A boxed, straight flight of stairs leads to the upper chambers. The walls and ceilings are lathed and plastered. Originally, the interior was heated by wood stoves, which have now been removed, and oil is used. A wood stove was installed in the new kitchen and is still in use. The wood for this stove is neatly stacked on the back porch and in cords in front of the porch.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION	Black History; Cultural History		

SPECIFIC DATES R. 1910

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

According to the owner, Mr. Dyson, this house was built in the early 1900's as a tenant house for both white and black tenant families who worked on his family's farm. It, therefore, represents the type of house occupied by the rural working class of both races in the late 19th and 20th centuries.

Though the possessions of the occupant family were by no means abundant, everything in and around the house was kept clean and neatly organized. The pictures of the grounds around the house show this attention and care. Note, for example, the neatly stacked cords of wood on the back porch and in the back yard, ^{with} along the stacked tobacco sheds. This arrangement of objects and physical space reveals important personal values of the occupant family, the Mahoneys. Comparing the placement of objects and use of space at this site and at other tenant houses -- for example, the Taylor House near La Plata -- indicates basic similarities as well as crucial individual differences in the sense of self and of home environment among black tenant farmers as a class.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

George W. McDaniel

8/77

ORGANIZATION

Md. Afro-American Commission

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

20 Dean St

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis, Md.

STATE

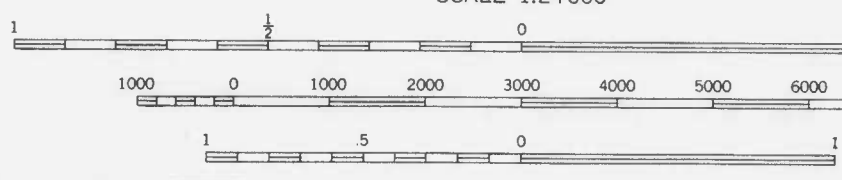
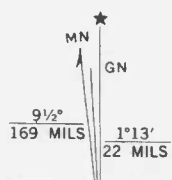
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



al Survey
from aerial
stable surveys 1944
ased on Maryland





CH-320

Dyson-Mahoney
Tenant House

NORTH Elevation

CHAS 320
Waldorf, Md. 2/77 GWM



CH-320

Dyson - MIMMERY
TENANT HOUSE
Southeast Elevation
CHAS 320
WALDORE, Md. 2/77 GWM